Border 2012 U.S. – Mexico Environmental Program

Priorities and Future Actions

Goal 5: Reduce exposure to "all hazards" due to accidental releases and/or acts of terrorism











Priorities

Priority # 1

Finalize proposed revisions to the U.S.–Mexico Joint Contingency Plan (JCP), Sister City Plans if applicable and successfully conduct JCP notification drills with updated notification system.

Priority #2

EPA will finalize the U.S. expedited cross-border response protocol with DHS Customs and Border Protection. Mexico's Customs will its support for emergency responders along the US-Mexico border. Work with Mexican Insurance companies.

Priority #3

Continue to expand Joint Response Team (JRT) and border-wide workgroup partners involvement in bi-national exercises. Continue to expand opportunities for training. Enhance public private partnerships to provide personal protective equipment.



Future Actions

Action Item # 1

Address PROFEPA/SEMARNAT, other U.S. and Mexican federal, state and local agencies, and Tribal Governments comments to the JCP. Work annually to ensure that all the parties are included and all contact information is up-to-date for notification procedures. Work to create additional Sister City Plans (or counties) to reach all communities. All local Sister City Plans need to be updated on a regular basis. Continue to refine indicators incorporating a bottom-up approach (local to states to federal)

Action Item #2

Identify emergency response personnel (EPA and contractors) that may respond to a cross-border emergency, using the revised ICS 204a form. Continue ongoing dialogue among U.S. and Mexico customs officials, PROFEPA, and EPA to identify next steps with Aduanas. EPA will submit the required insurance information to PROFEPA to obtain estimated quotes from identified Mexican Insurance Companies.

Action Item #3

Provide support in establishing an emergency training academy in Region 6, and enhance Region 9's Baja California Emergency Management Academy that will sign final MOU today. EPA and PROFEPA will establish a coordinated schedule of Mexico and U.S. exercises and drills for the second half of 2006, and some potential locations were already chosen. Incorporate creative means to use private funds to purchase personal protective equipment.